

Geologists' Association - South Wales Group

Cymdeithas y Daearegwyr - Grŵp De Cymru



December 2017

Fifty-ninth session

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Winter Programme:

We have one indoor meeting left for 2017 that takes place on **Saturday 16th December in Cardiff** when **Dr Philip Hughes** from Manchester University will speak to us on ***New findings on the Pleistocene glacial history of Wales and neighbouring areas.*** This is our 'Christmas meeting' so I am informed that there is a good likelihood that there will be seasonal fare to go with our teas and coffee beforehand!

The programme for the second half of the session is as follows:

2018

Saturday 13th January: ***Holiday Geology:*** (National Museum Cardiff)

Saturday 27th January: ***Escuminac, Quebec - Revisited: a fishy tale.*** Prof. Brian Williams [University of Aberdeen/University College, Dublin] (Swansea)

Saturday 17th February: ***Dinosaur embryos:*** Dr John Nudds [Manchester University] (Cardiff)

Tuesday 6th March: ***Volcanoes in Iceland:*** Dr Ian Skilling [University of South Wales] (Cardiff)

Saturday 24th March: ***AGM and Presidential Address: Extending a Pembrokeshire based Litho-stratigraphy for the Lower Devonian across the whole Anglo-Welsh Province:*** Dr. John Davies (Swansea)

Summer Programme 2018

Planning has begun for next summer's field meeting programme. To date there are three field meetings confirmed which are as follows:

Sunday May 20th: *The Tortworth Inlier*, Gloucestershire. (Dave Green)

Saturday 15th September: *Three Cliffs Bay and Ilston*, Gower: (Paul Wright)

Friday 9th - Sunday 11th November: *Pembrokeshire weekend:* (Brian Williams & Gareth George)

If anybody has any suggestions for other venues (and possible leaders!) then please let me know.



Holiday Geology 2018

Our annual *Holiday Geology* meeting takes place on **Saturday 13th January 2018**, once again in the National Museum Cardiff, and runs from 11.00am - 4.00pm. As usual this is a chance for all you budding speakers to come and entertain your fellow members with tales of geology seen on your travels or anything else with a geological

flavour, no matter how tenuous, that you think will be of interest. I will be looking for about 8-10 'volunteers' to fill the day's programme. Each talk should be for a **maximum** of 15 minutes but can be shorter if you wish. The meeting is now only six weeks away and to date I have only had **two** volunteers so there are still plenty of slots in the programme. So that I can plan a balanced programme for the day it would be appreciated if you could let me know the topic of your talk at least a day before the meeting.

We will be providing tea and coffee from about 10.15am but you will have to make your own lunch arrangements. You can eat a packed lunch in the meeting room or there are other options, such as the museum restaurant next door or various other eating places in the city centre. In order to make sure that we have enough refreshments can you please let me know that you will be attending by **10th January at the latest**. We will have our usual book stall and there will be space for small displays so if you would like to display anything please let me know and I will book you a space.



GA Conference 2017

Pdf's of two of the talks that were given at the at the highly successful GA Conference in Cardiff in October are now on the Group's web site. To find them go to the SWGA web site. Open 'Publications and Downloads'. The second heading on that page is 'SWGA Conferences'. Here you will see both the 2014 ORS conference and the recent GA conference mentioned with a 'please click here' link at the end of each paragraph. Click 'here' on the GA Conference link and it will take you to a page with links to flyers and abstracts. Below the abstracts heading you will see the links to the pdf's of the talks.



Events 2018

Can you find us some rock?

We have already received enquiries from organisations about attending a number of one-off events next year. At these we usually run a number of hands-on activities that are popular with families, such as our fossil bash, gold panning, dinosaur colouring etc as well as taking along specimens and posters. Due to the decline in opencast activity and access problems we are finding it increasingly difficult to run the fossil bash activity as our supply of rock has now run out. If any of you know someone who works in the opencast field who might be able to gain us access to collect some material for this activity could you please let us know. Also, if you have any ideas for new hands-on activities that we could try, please let us know - this doesn't commit you to coming along to help run it although we never turn away a volunteer!



Message from the Membership Secretary

Membership Cards.

This subject was discussed at the last AGM and as a result this year we have trialed the production of an Events Summary to go out with the Newsletter this year to replace the Membership Cards (with the Field Code as well for the Summer Programme only). So far we have had little feedback - if you have any comments please pass these on to the Membership Secretary (contact details in the heading). It is planned to put this on the Agenda for review at the next AGM.

Subscriptions

Our membership year runs from September. If you have not already paid yours please send your Remittance or a completed Standing Order form (part of the membership form on the Society's web site) to the Membership Secretary (contact details in the heading) .



Cardiff University Public Lectures

These lecture programme is still running. (The theme is: Catastrophes: Past, Present and Potential.) Full details of all the speakers and topics can be found on

<http://sites.cardiff.ac.uk/events/category/series/catastrophes-past-present-future/>



Other Geological Organisations

- Russell Society, Wales and West Branch: Tom Cotterell. Tel: 01594 845935 before 9 pm
- Welsh Stone Forum (Fforwm Cerrig Cymru): Tim Palmer tjp@aber.ac.uk or www.museumwales.ac.uk/en/welshstoneforum
- U3A South Wales Geology Group: Nigel McGaw. Tel: 01656 654439
- Open University Geological Society: Norman Nimmo-Smith ougs.org.uk/severnside
- West Wales Geology Society: www.westwalesgeolsoc.org.uk
- South East Wales RIGS : <http://sewrigs.wordpress.com/>

